

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01
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INR:RBARAZ
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O P 300139Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T STATE 152272

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, MBFR, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: REVISED FRG APPROACH TO DATA

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REFS: A. NATO 6106 DTG 271630Z JUN 77
B. NATO 6108 DTG 271759Z JUN 77
C. NATO 5895 DTG 231741Z JUN 77

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED FRG TEXT OF DRAFT GUIDANCE TABLED IN
SPC (REF A) AND ARE PREPARED TO WORK ON THE BASIS OF THE
FRG TEXT. WE BELIEVE THE SPC SHOULD NOW COMPLETE WORK ON

THE GUIDANCE TO ALLOW TIME TO MAKE THIS PROPOSAL TO THE EAST AND, IF THEY AGREE, TO EXCHANGE AND BEGIN TO DISCUSS ADDITIONAL DATA IN THE CURRENT ROUND.

2. WE BELIEVE THE REVISED FRG APPROACH REPRESENTS AN ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE OF THE ISSUE OF NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION OF DISAGGREGATED DATA. WE DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE ITS POTENTIAL PROBLEMS OF NEGOTIABILITY, BUT WE HAVE CONCLUDED THE WEST CAN MAKE A REASONABLE AND CREDIBLE CASE TO THE EAST THAT OMITTING THE NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION OF THE RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF ALLIED MILITARY PERSONNEL AT INTEGRATED ALLIANCE HEADQUARTERS WOULD NOT IMPEDE THE PURPOSES OF THE DATA DISCUSSION. WE ASSUME THIS NUMBER WOULD BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM AND WOULD NOT EXCEED 8000-9000;

ADDITIONALLY A CONCISE DEFINITION OF PERSONNEL INCLUDED IN THIS CATEGORY MUST BE DEVELOPED AND AGREED UPON.

3. WE UNDERSTAND (AS AMB. RUTH SPECIFIED, PARA 4, REF B) THAT THE "OFFICIAL DESIGNATION" OF WESTERN CORPS WOULD INCLUDE A NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION.

4. WE BELIEVE THE LANGUAGE OF PARA LC OF THE FRG TEXT SHOULD BE MODIFIED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT, WHILE EXCHANGE OF DIVISIONAL DATA IS ENVISAGED BY THE WEST, AND WHILE ALLIED NEGOTIATORS HAVE AUTHORITY TO EXCHANGE DIVISIONAL
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DATA, EASTERN ACCEPTANCE OF A DIVISIONAL EXCHANGE IS NOT AN ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITE FOR THE OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE EXCHANGE OF DATA ON GROUND FORCE MANPOWER. WE UNDERSTAND FROM AMB. RUTH'S REMARKS (PARA 7, REF B) THAT THIS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE FRG.

5. WITH RESPECT TO THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH SUGGESTED BY THE FRG, WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THE ALLIED NEGOTIATORS SHOULD BE ABLE TO SIMULTANEOUSLY EXCHANGE WITH THE EAST THE ELEMENTS OF GROUND DATA DESCRIBED IN PARA 1 A, B, C, AND D OF THE FRG TEXT IN A SINGLE STEP. AN EXCHANGE OF AIR MANPOWER DATA IN AN AGREED FORMAT WOULD BE AS A SECOND STEP FOLLOWING THE EXCHANGE AND DISCUSSION OF THE GROUND MANPOWER DATA. HOWEVER, ALLIED WILLINGNESS TO TAKE THIS SECOND STEP AFTER DISCUSSION OF GROUND MANPOWER DATA MUST BE MADE CLEAR TO THE EAST IN PROPOSING THE OVERALL APPROACH FOR ADDITIONAL DATA EXCHANGE (1ST SENTENCE OF FRG TEXT).

6. WITH RESPECT TO PARA 3 OF FRG TEXT, WE AGREE WITH YOUR COMMENT IN PARA 6 OF REF C. THAT THE PHRASE "EXCEPT ON AN ILLUSTRATIVE BASIS" IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE

OF THE CONDITION CONTAINED IN SECOND TICK AND THEREFORE RECOMMEND ITS DELETION. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT IT IS INAPPROPRIATE TO AUTHORIZE ALLIED NEGOTIATORS TO REFER TO THE ISSUE OF NATIONAL REDUCTION COMMITMENTS IN THE GUIDANCE. HOWEVER, IF WE CAN WORK OUT AN OTHERWISE AGREED DRAFT OF NAC GUIDANCE, WE ARE WILLING TO ACCEDE TO FRG VIEWS ON THIS POINT, PROVIDED IT IS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE TIMING AND MODALITIES OF ANY USE OF THIS AUTHORIZATION IS A MATTER FOR THE COLLECTIVE JUDGMENT OF THE AD HOC GROUP.

7. FOR BONN. YOU SHOULD DRAW ON ABOVE, IF POSSIBLE WITH RUTH, AS THE US RESPONSE TO THE FRG PROPOSAL. (WE HAVE GIVEN FRG EMBOFF VON PFETTEN SUMMARY VERBAL COMMKNTS.)
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YOU SHOULD ALSO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION FOR THE FRG'S WILLINGNESS TO DEVISE A SATISFACTORY COMPROMISE SOLUTION.

8. FOR NATO. YOU MAY DRAW ON ABOVE. CHRISTOPHER

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